

WE CLAIM

1. A processor clock control device operable to control switching between clock signals input to a processor, said processor clock control device comprising:

at least two clock signal inputs each operable to receive a clock signal, said
5 clock signals comprising a first and a second clock signal;

a sensor operable to sense said first and said second clock signals;

a clock signal output operable to output a clock signal for input to a processor;
and

a clock switching signal input for receiving a switching signal operable to
10 control switching of said clock signal output from said first clock signal to said second clock signal; wherein

said processor clock control device is operable on receipt of said switching signal to sense said first clock signal and when said first clock signal transitions from a first predetermined level to a second level, said processor clock control device is
15 operable to hold said clock signal output at said second level, and then to sense said second clock signal and when said second clock signal transitions from said first predetermined level to said second level to output said second clock signal.

2. A processor clock control device according to claim 1, wherein said output
20 control device is operable to sense said first clock signal and if said first clock signal is at said second level when said switching signal is received said output control device is operable to hold said output at said second level.

3. A processor clock control device according to claim 2, said processor clock
25 control device further comprising a further clock switching signal input operable to receive a further switching signal, said processor clock control device being operable to sense said second clock signal only after receipt of said further switching signal.

4. A processor clock control device according to claim 3, wherein said further
30 switching signal, comprises a switch signal component and a number component, said output control device being operable to sense said second clock signal only after receipt of said switch signal component and to output said second clock signal for a number of cycles specified by said number component.

5. A processor clock control device according to claim 1, wherein said clock switching signal input further comprises logic operable to inhibit forwarding of said received clock switching signal to said processor clock control device until said first
5 clock signal reaches said first predetermined level.

6. A processor clock control device according to claim 5, wherein said logic operable to inhibit forwarding of said received clock switching signal to said processor clock control device comprises a register that is clocked by said first clock
10 signal at said first predetermined level.

7. A processor clock control device according to claim 1, wherein following receipt of a clock switching signal said clock switching signal input is inhibited from receiving further signals until said processor clock control device outputs said second
15 clock signal.

8. A processor clock control device according to claim 1, said processor clock control device comprising a plurality of set/reset flip flops and logic gates.

20 9. A processor control device according to claim 1, comprising a further clock signal input.

10. A processing apparatus comprising:
a processor comprising a clock signal input;
25 at least two clocks each operable to output a clock signal; and
a processor clock control device according to claim 1, said processor clock control device being operable to control which one of said at least two clock signals is to be input to said processor clock signal input.

30 11. A method of switching between clock signals to be output comprising the following steps:
outputting a first clock signal;
receiving a clock switching signal;

sensing a first clock signal and when said first clock signal transitions from a first predetermined level to a second level, holding said sensed first clock signal at said second level and outputting said held signal;

5 sensing said second clock signal and when said second clock signal transitions from said first predetermined level to said second level outputting said second clock signal.

12. A method according to claim 11, wherein in said step of sensing a first clock signal, if said first clock signal is at said second level when said switching signal is received holding said sensed first clock signal at said second level and outputting said held signal.

13. A method according to claim 12, said processor clock control device further comprising the step of receiving a further switching signal, the step of sensing said second clock signal being performed only after receipt of said further switching signal.

14. A method according to claim 13, wherein said further switching signal comprises a switch signal component and a number component, said step of sensing said second clock signal being performed only after receipt of said switch signal component and said step of outputting said second clock signal being performed for a number of cycles specified by said number component.

15. A method according to claim 11, wherein said receipt of said clock switching signal is inhibited until said first clock signal reaches said first predetermined level.

16. A method according to claim 11, comprising a further step following the step of receiving of said clock switching signal, inhibiting receipt of further input signals and following the final step of outputting said second clock signal, allowing receipt of further input signals.